

WILSON SAVED FARMERS BY AVERTING RAILROAD STRIKE

(By Frank G. Odell, Member Executive Committee, Farmers' National Congress of the United States and Editor Nebraska Farm Magazine.)

The farmers of America have just faced a crisis, from which they have been delivered by prompt action by the President of the United States. It is the purpose of this article to call their attention to a condition which they have fortunately escaped.

For approximately three months in the summer of 1916 the country was faced with the threat of a nationwide railway strike. The railway managers and representatives of the "Big Four" Brotherhoods, representing all the railroads of the United States and their 400,000 employed in train service, were deadlocked in a controversy over hours of labor and wage schedules. About the middle of August a crisis was imminent. President Wilson volunteered to act as mediator in the interest of the public. His efforts were unavailing because legislation looking toward the settlement of all industrial disputes, begun by this Democratic Congress had not yet gone far enough, the President had no power to force arbitration. An impasse was again reached. The Brotherhoods issued a strike order to be effective on "Labor Day," September 4.

The railroad management recognized the imminence of the strike. Emergency orders were issued on freight shipments. Placards were posted all over the United States stating that because of impending strike conditions, tickets would be sold only subject to delay. Supplies and strike breakers were mobilized at strategic points. The country waited, breathless, for the storm to break. It was apparent that neither party was bluffing.

Assiduous efforts are being made by politicians and representatives of special interests to discredit the motives of the President in his relation to this controversy. The inside story of the strike legislation is here made public for the first time.

The President saw a national calamity impending. Immediate action was imperative. He called certain leaders of his party into conference with him in the President's room at the Capitol. They were:

Senator Kern, Democratic floor leader of the Senate; Senator Newlands, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce; Representative Kitchin, Democratic floor leader of the House; Representative Adamson, Chairman of the House Committee on Interstate Commerce.

The President and these four gentlemen wrote the bill which was presented to Congress with the special message of the President on the following day. Neither the railroads nor the Brotherhoods were consulted. Neither party knew what the bill contained until it was made public. Neither party made any demand on the President or his advisers, or had the slightest influence in the framing of the bill.

That portion of the bill providing for the establishment of an eight hour day for railroad employees engaged in the operation of trains became a law. It was accepted by the Brotherhoods; the strike was averted and the impending calamity was averted.

An appeal is being made to the farmer on the eve of the presidential election to vote against Mr. Wilson because of his attitude on the strike question. Has the farmer considered what a strike would have meant to him?

No class of the American people stood the chance of losing so much from a strike as the farmer. A single week of inactivity in the operation of freight and express service would have paralyzed his market for a month or more. Coming at the time of marketing of his crops, fall fruits and vegetables, his loss from this source alone would have run into the millions. The demoralization of his market would have opened opportunities for juggling in the grain exchanges and commission centers—an opportunity which crafty speculators would have speedily seized and multiplied millions would have been taken from the hard-earned profits of the producer.

When a single deal in the Chicago wheat pit runs into profits of \$2,000 per minute on a "bull" market, human reason is powerless to conjecture what the gamblers would have done to the farmer with a strike on and the world clamoring for food. The gambler in food-stuffs has the game rigged against the farmer both ways from the middle. A nationwide strike would have been a gambler's carnival.

This article may fall under the eye of a melon grower in the Rocky Ford district in Colorado. He can guess what would have happened to him in September had it been impossible to ship his cantaloupes. Or it may, perchance, reach a peach grower in Michigan; even water freight across Lake Michigan to Chicago would not have saved him.

The apple grower of the Ozarks, the Northwest, or New York would have been in the same deplorable state. Storage facilities are inadequate to handle the entire normal crop and it would have been impossible to get the fruit to storage without train service. The immense dairy interest, the poultry market, the citrus growers, the grower of prunes, plums, pears, etc., would all have shared in the national calamity which impended.

President Wilson prevented this calamity. For this he is denounced by those who fail to state how they would have protected the interests of the farmers of America in such a crisis.

It is estimated by the railroad management that the alleged increase in wages which they would have to pay because of the eight hour day would amount to a figure ranging from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 during the year. Allowing their highest figure of \$100,000,000—the farmers of the United States would have lost more than this in thirty days had there not been a man in the White House big enough to protect the interest of the whole people.

Five cents a bushel on wheat is easy picking for the pit gamblers when they can play the market at their own sweet will. It would have meant fifty million dollars loss to the farmers on the billion bushel crop. The gamblers may get it anyhow—but they will not find it so easy since the Federal Government has established an honest system of grading under a law passed by the present Congress.

James K. Arnsby, one of the largest shippers of fruit in California and

a Republican, recently made the statement that if the threatened railroad strike had taken place it would have bankrupted many of the fruit growers of that State. He said it would have caused a loss of not less than \$20,000,000 to the fruit industry of California alone. This amount is probably much too low.

The peach crop now going to market, with a value of about \$55,000,000 would have been practically a total loss, had the President not induced Congress to act.

The \$200,000,000 apple crop would have been shrunken by inability to get to storage and disorganization of the market to the tune of at least \$100,000,000.

The potato crop of a value of about \$220,000,000 would have involved a further loss of at least \$50,000,000.

The cabbage farmer of Northern Ohio, the grower of tomatoes for the canneries, and the celery grower of Michigan and Florida would have kept mournful company.

Melons from Colorado, California, Arizona and Delaware, grapes from the vine-clad hills of western New York, and the sunny slopes of Yakima and Wenatchee, prunes, pickles, poultry, butter and eggs would have gone down in the common caldron.

Some of this stuff might have been fed to the hogs, to be sure, although a hog does not fatten on a fruit and vegetable diet; but when hogs and cattle are ready for the market they must go. The farmer cannot feed beyond the finishing point without increasing daily loss. What would a strike have meant to the live stock market of the farmer? And what would it have meant to the consumer, with the cold storage facilities in control of the packers' combine?

The direct and immediate loss which the farmer would have sustained in case of a strike is but one phase of the danger which threatened his interests. The depressing influence upon market prices, resulting from the inability of consumers to buy because of lack of employment, would have been felt in every single item of this year's farm products. Take this single instance: The President sent to President Wilson on September 2, by Henry Ford, the world's greatest automobile manufacturer:

"The President: The moment it is positively known that a strike will become effective on the railroads, the Ford Motor Company will of absolute necessity shut down its factory and all of its assembly plants throughout the country, and every man of its more than 49,000 workers will have to go off the pay roll.

"Our business is so organized that the supplies and products must be kept moving constantly. We cannot move a day without railroad service. We are making 2,200 cars every day. The materials must be moved in and cars out. I sincerely hope something can be done to avert the strike. Your efforts are appreciated and should be commended by every citizen in the country.

HENRY FORD."

This telegram is typical of what would have happened to practically every American industry had a strike ensued. Millions of contented and well-employed laborers would have faced enforced idleness; poverty and destitution would have come to millions of workers; the working man's power to buy food products depends upon his daily wage. Stop his wage and his consuming power is limited by the bare necessities of life.

A nationwide railway strike would have paralyzed every American industry and precipitated a panic, such as has never been witnessed in the history of this country. The farmer provides the necessities of life for America's millions and multiplied millions overseas. A strike would have disorganized the farmer's market, destroyed and wasted the product of his toil and would have brought him face to face with an economic condition from which he could not have recovered for years.

Let the farmer get the record straight. He faced this crisis which threatened him with incalculable financial loss. There was no law in force to compel arbitration between contending forces who refused to yield to voluntary arbitration. The President and Congress performed their inevitable duty for the protection of the public. For this act, President Wilson is denounced by those who offer no suggested remedy to meet such a situation had they been in power.

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Sunday Services In The Churches

St. John's Episcopal church, Park and Fairfield avenues, Rev. Stephen B. Sherman, Jr., rector; Rev. Charles W. Findlay, assistant. Services, 8 a. m., celebration of the Holy Communion; 10:30 a. m., morning prayer, Litany and sermon. The rector will preach; 12 noon, Sunday school; 4:45 p. m., choral evensong and sermon. The Rev. Mr. Findlay will preach.

St. Luke's church, Stratford avenue and Sixth street, Rev. William H. Jopson, rector; 8 a. m., Holy Communion; 10:30, morning prayer and sermon; 12:15, Sunday school; 7:30, evening prayer and sermon. G. F. S., Monday, 7:45. Young Men's club, Tuesday, 7:45. Scouts, Wednesday, 7:30. Woman's Guild, Thursday, 2:30. Sewing school, Friday at 2.

Trinity church, corner Fairfield avenue and Broad street, Sunday services, Oct. 8, 1916; 8 a. m., Holy Communion; 10:10 a. m., Matins; 10:30 a. m., choral Eucharist and sermon; by the rector, Rev. C. W. Arson; 12:10 p. m., Sunday school; 7:30 p. m., choral evensong and sermon by the Rev. Harrison F. Rockwell.

Church of the Nativity: 3:15 p. m., evensong and sermon by the Rev. H. F. Rockwell.

St. George's church, Rev. H. E. Keen, rector. Sunday, 8 a. m., Holy Communion; 10:30 a. m., Holy Communion and sermon; 12, parish school, Thursday, 8:15 a. m., Holy Communion. Although the church is being moved, the services and school will be held as usual.

Calvary Episcopal church, Wells street, corner No. 4th, Rev. George J. Sutherland, minister in charge. Sunday, 9 a. m., Holy Communion. Sunday school at 12. Thursday, 2:30 p. m., Ladies' Aid society. Stereoscopic lecture, Thursday, 7:30 p. m.

The United Congregational church, corner of Broad and Gilbert streets. Morning worship at 10:30 with sermon by Prof. Luther Allan Weigle, D. D., Horace Bushnell Professor of Christian Nurture, School of Religion, Yale University. Subject, "The Church's Work in Religious Education." The choir will render the anthem, "My Heart Shall be Joyful," by Pike, and for the offertory, "Be Thou Not Far From Me," by the choir. Junior C. E. at 4 p. m. and Intermediate Christian Endeavor at 8:30 p. m. with subject, "Prayer as Communion with God." A cordial invitation is extended to all who will worship in this church to attend the above services.

Park Street Congregational church, corner Barnum avenue and Park street, Gerald H. Beard, minister. Rally Sunday, Special services. Sermon, "To the Help of the Lord Against the Mighty." Talk with boys and girls, "The Non-Electives." Special music. Sunday school at 12:05. Men's class meets to plan course. Kappa Nu for young men. At 7:30, Rally Praise service. Cantata, "The Pilgrims," by quartet and chorus. Address, "The Religion That Sings."

The Olivet Congregational church, Main street, at North avenue, the Rev. George Oliver Gamble, pastor. Sabbath school meets at 9:45 a. m. with Howard Spear, Supt. Public worship, 10:45 a. m., with sermon. Subject, "The Marks of a Christian." The Junior Christian Endeavor society meets at 4 p. m. and the evening worship is at 7:30. The subject for the evening address is, "What is Life?" The midweek service is held Wednesday evening at 7:30. Strangers are cordially welcomed to all the services of this church.

West End Congregational church, Colorado avenue, between Fairfield and State street, Ralph Herbert White, pastor: 10:30, morning sermon, "The Hands of the Master." School and Men's Brotherhood at noon: 6:30, Y. P. S. C. E. Evening worship sermon, "The Wisdom of Serpents." Wednesday, 7:45, church prayer meeting; topic, "What Distinguishes the Christian from Other Men?"

First Presbyterian church, State street, corner of Myrtle avenue, Rev. John MacLaren Richardson, pastor. Services, 10:30 a. m., 7:30 p. m. Sunday school, 12 noon. "Rally Day" will be observed this day. The church members during the day. Pastor's subject in the morning, "The Bible." "Rally Day" address in the Sunday school by Louis Ope, Esq., secretary of the Boys' Y. M. C. A. Musical service in the evening with organ recital at 7 o'clock. E. S. Joyce, organist and director.

The People's Presbyterian church, Laurel and Park avenues, Rev. H. A. Davenport, minister. Men's meeting, 10 a. m. Divine worship, 10:30. Sermon on "Sunshine in the Soul." Sunday school, 12. C. E. meeting, 6:30. "New Undertakings," by W. B. Harrington. Midweek service Wednesday, 7:45.

The First Methodist Episcopal church, Fairfield avenue and Broad street. At the morning hour of worship, 10:30, will be held the annual Rally Day exercises of the church and Sunday school. The Men's Assembly will meet as usual at 10 o'clock in the lecture room. The Epworth League service at 6:30 will be conducted by Ralph I. Munson. A short song service will be held at 7:30 and the pastor, George M. Brown, will give the second sermon in the series on "What Business Men Think of the Church." The subject is, "The Successes or Failures of the Church."

Washington Park M. E. church, Barnum and Noble avenues, Rev. Everett C. Burnes, minister: 9:30, class meeting in the east class room; 10:30, morning worship and a Rally sermon; subject, "Altogether"; 12:10, Rally Sunday school exercises, conducted by C. W. Oviatt. The devotional service will be in charge of A. H. Kean, president of the First Presbyterian society. The address of the evening will be made by Rev. J. M. Richardson, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, which means that the young people will receive an inspiration for the fall and winter work, as the C. E. forces of the world are engaging in a campaign for millions.

Mr. Richardson will suggest the motive needed to make the campaign a success. The officers of the union are: President, T. T. Phillips; first vice-president, Mary E. West; third vice-

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First Baptist church, West and Washington avenues, Rev. John Richard Brown, minister. Services at 10:30 and 7:30. Sunday school at 12. The pastor's class for men, C. E. society, 6:30. Morning subject, "Prisoners of Hope." In the evening Dr. Brown begins a series of sermons on "The Contributions of the Denominations to Christianity." The subject for the first evening will be "The Contributions of Catholicism." The public is cordially invited.

Calvary Baptist church, Connecticut avenue and Bunnell street, Rev. W. B. Oakley, pastor: 10:30, morning service, sermon by the pastor. T. M. Shaw will sing; 12 noon, session of the church school; 7:30, C. E. service; 7:30, evening song and preaching service. Wednesday, 7:45, midweek prayer and conference meeting. Thursday, meeting of the Ladies' Aid society at 2:30.

German Reformed church, Congress street, near Main street, Rev. H. G. Wiemer, pastor. Divine worship, 10:30, with Holy Communion. Evening, 7:30. Sunday school, 9:30 a. m.

The Salvation Army, 30 Elm street, Ensign and Mrs. Edwin J. Perrett, officers in charge. Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, Oct. 7th to 9th, the local corps will celebrate the annual Harvest Festival of the Salvation Army and the services will be of a special character and will bear on Harvesting and will be held as follows: Saturday at 8 p. m., free and easy; Sunday, 1:30 p. m., company meeting and Bible class; 3 p. m., Christian praise; and 8 p. m., revival service. Monday at 8 p. m., there will be a sale of the goods donated for the Harvest Festival. In connection with this sale a special program will be arranged and ice cream and cake will be served. A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend the above services.

First German Lutheran church, Grand and Catherine streets, Rev. H. Wehmeyer, pastor. Sunday school, 9:15. The congregation will celebrate its annual mission festival, by conducting two appropriate services at 10:30 a. m. and 2:30 p. m. The speakers for the occasion will be Rev. A. Brunn from Brooklyn, N. Y., and Rev. B. G. Steup from Stamford, Conn. Everybody is welcome.

The Bridgeport Christian Union, Inc., the interdenominational work of the churches of the city, in rescue and relief, 24 Bank street, Rev. C. W. Simpson, Supt. Services every evening at 8 o'clock, except Wednesday at 10:30 a. m. and Sunday afternoon, noon at 2. Tomorrow afternoon Rev. Mr. Oakley, pastor of the Memorial Baptist church, will speak.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, 871 Lafayette street, Services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Subject, "Are Sin, Disease and Death Real?" Sunday school at 9:45. Wednesday evening testimonial meeting at 8.

At 7:45 Sunday evening, at the Lecture Tent on North Main street, opposite Federal street, Evangelist S. E. Norton will speak. Subject, "God's Sign of Loyalty, Man's Mark of Apostasy."

Universalist Church of the Redeemer, Fairfield avenue, above Broad street, Rev. William Wallace Rose, minister. Services at 10:30 and 6:30. Kindergarten under trained teachers at the hour of morning service, thus allowing parents to leave children and attend worship. Bible school for young men and women. Rally Day will be celebrated Sunday at 10:30. Rev. Mr. Rose will preach upon the theme, "The Good Church." The quartet under the direction of Miss Edna Northrop will render the following special music: Anthems, "Ye Shall Dwell in the Land," "Praise Ye the Father," trio, "Hear Our Prayer." The slogan of the day is every member of every church a church member. Strangers and visitors will find a welcome. Service at 6:30 in charge of the Young People. Topic, "Preparedness."

The annual meeting of the Bridgeport C. E. Union will be held at the First Presbyterian church, Monday, Oct. 9. Officers will be elected for the coming year. The members and friends will sit down to supper at 6:30. The rally will be opened at 8 o'clock with a praise service, conducted by C. W. Oviatt. The devotional service will be in charge of A. H. Kean, president of the First Presbyterian society. The address of the evening will be made by Rev. J. M. Richardson, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, which means that the young people will receive an inspiration for the fall and winter work, as the C. E. forces of the world are engaging in a campaign for millions.

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ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. Augustine's, Washington avenue, corner of Pequotonock street. Masses: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. High mass at 11 a. m.; vespers, 7:30.

St. Mary's, Pembroke street, corner of Steuben street, Rev. John J. Murphy, pastor. Low masses, 7:30 and 8. Children's mass, 9:30. High mass, 10:30.

Sacred Heart church, 718 Myrtle avenue, Rev. Richard Moore, L. D., pastor. Low masses, 7 and 8. Children's mass at 9. Sunday school after mass. High mass, 10:30. Vespers at 7:30 p. m.

Masses on Sundays at St. Joseph's, Madison avenue, Rev. Hubert Dahme, pastor, are celebrated as follows: Low mass 8:30 and high mass 10:30. Vespers 7:30 p. m. Daily mass 8:15.

St. Charles', 1255 East 1st street, Rev. Patrick McGivney, pastor. Low masses, 7 and 8:15. Children's mass 8. Last mass 10:30. Holy hour and benediction every Sunday evening at 7.

St. Peter's, 521 Howard avenue, Rev. Thomas Kelly, pastor. Masses, 7, 8, 9:15 and 10:30.

Holy Rosary, 385 East Washington avenue, Rev. Angelo De Toro, pastor. Low masses, 6, 7:30. Children's mass, 9. High mass, 10:30.

St. Patrick's, 351 North avenue, Rev. John Lynch, pastor. Low masses 7 and 9. Children's mass 9:30. High mass 10:30.

St. John's of Nepomuk Slovak, 229 Brooks street, Rev. Andrew Komar, pastor. Low mass—7 and 8. Children's mass, 9. High mass, 10:30.

St. Anthony's (French) church, 96 Colorado avenue, Rev. E. J. Plunkett, pastor. Masses at 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30. Devotions Tuesday evening, 7:30.

St. Michael's (Polish), 519 Sterling street, Rev. Alphonse L. Figlewski, pastor. Low masses, 8 and 9:15. High mass, 10:30.

St. Stephen's (Hungarian), Spruce, corner of Eastwick avenue, Rev. Stephen Chertitzky, pastor. Low masses, 7:30 and 9. High mass, 10:30.

St. George's Lith. R. C. church, Park avenue. Sunday masses 8 and 10:30. Vespers and benediction 4 p. m. Week day mass 7:30. M. A. Pankowski, pastor.

Owing to the risks of North Sea traffic the Dutch Batavier Line has suspended its regular sailing between London and Rotterdam.

SAVED FROM MISERY

All the despondency, misery and discouragement that you go through when you have a disordered liver can be avoided by taking Leonard's Liver-Aid. It is so delicious to take, purely vegetable and safe. Contains no dangerous calomel or injurious drugs. It puts the liver in fine shape, overcomes constipation, banishes headaches, chills, fever, indigestion, mental depression and jaundice. It aids in toning up the entire system and is a fine stomach and bowel remedy. May be taken by both young and old. Pleasing to even the most delicate constitution as it does not gripe. Get a bottle from your druggist, 50c, or Hindle's Drug Stores, 287 Main street and 909 Main street.

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